

Claims

- [c1] 1. An apparatus for securing a mobile terminal including a housing and an imaging device disposed within the housing for capturing an image through a lens, the securing apparatus comprising:
a sheet having an upper surface and a lower surface; and
an adhesive applied on the lower surface of the sheet,
wherein the sheet may be releasably adhered to the surface of the mobile terminal for covering the lens to substantially prevent image capture by the imaging device.
- [c2] 2. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the sheet is formed from an opaque material.
- [c3] 3. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the lower surface of the sheet comprises a reflective surface.
- [c4] 4. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the sheet is selected from a film, paper, a woven fabric, or a non-woven fabric.
- [c5] 5. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the adhesive is a pressure-sensitive adhesive.

- [c6] 6. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the lower surface of the sheet is partially covered with adhesive.
- [c7] 7. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein the partial adhesive coverage includes the periphery of the lower surface of the sheet.
- [c8] 8. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein the partial adhesive coverage includes all but a portion of the lower surface of the sheet, the portion of the sheet without adhesive being adjacent to the edge of the sheet.
- [c9] 9. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a protective backing for removably covering the lower surface of the sheet.
- [c10] 10. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising indicia on the upper surface.
- [c11] 11. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 10, wherein the indicia comprise characteristic symbols.
- [c12] 12. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 10, wherein the indicia comprise alphanumeric characters
- [c13] 13. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 10, wherein the indicia are machine-readable.

- [c14] 14. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 13, wherein the machine-readable indicia is a latent retroreflective image.
- [c15] 15. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the sheet is altered upon removal.
- [c16] 16. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the adhesive does not retain its adhesiveness upon removal from the mobile terminal housing or lens such that the sheet cannot be re-applied once removed.
- [c17] 17. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the alteration of the sheet includes irreversible destruction of the sheet upon removal.
- [c18] 18. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 17, wherein the sheet is formed from an easily tearable material.
- [c19] 19. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 17, wherein upon removal of the sheet from the mobile terminal housing or lens, a portion of the sheet will tear from the remainder of the sheet and the portion will remain adhered to the mobile terminal or lens.
- [c20] 20. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 19, wherein the portion of the sheet adhered to the mobile terminal or lens comprises indicia.

- [c21] 21. A securing apparatus as recited in claim 20, wherein the indicia comprises alphanumeric characters.
- [c22] 22. A mobile terminal for use in a wireless communication system, comprising:
 - a housing;
 - an imaging device disposed within the housing for capturing an image through a lens, the housing defining an opening for the lens;
 - a sheet having an upper surface and a lower surface; and
 - an adhesive applied on the lower surface of the sheet, wherein the sheet may be releasably adhered to the surface of the mobile terminal for covering the lens to substantially prevent image capture by the imaging device.
- [c23] 23. A mobile terminal as recited in claim 22, wherein the mobile terminal is a cellular telephone.
- [c24] 24. A mobile terminal as recited in claim 22, wherein the mobile terminal is used in a wireless communication system.
- [c25] 25. A mobile terminal as recited in claim 22, wherein the imaging device is a camera.
- [c26] 26. A mobile terminal as recited in claim 22, wherein the adhesive has a greater affinity for the sheet than for the

surface of the mobile terminal or lens to which it is to be applied.

- [c27] 27. A mobile terminal as recited in claim 22, further comprising a protective backing for removably covering the lower surface of the sheet.
- [c28] 28. A mobile terminal as recited in claim 22, further comprising indicia on the upper surface.
- [c29] 29. A mobile terminal as recited in claim 28, wherein the indicia comprise characteristic symbols
- [c30] 30. A mobile terminal as recited in claim 22, wherein the sheet is altered upon removal.
- [c31] 31. A mobile terminal as recited in claim 30, wherein the adhesive does not retain its adhesiveness upon removal from the mobile terminal housing or lens such that the sheet cannot be re-applied once removed.
- [c32] 32. A mobile terminal as recited in claim 30, wherein the alteration of the sheet includes irreversible destruction of the sheet upon removal.
- [c33] 33. A mobile terminal as recited in claim 22, wherein the adhesive is a pressure-sensitive adhesive for producing a bond between the sheet and the housing of the mobile terminal or the lens.

[c34] 34. A method for securing a mobile terminal including a housing and an imaging device disposed within the housing for capturing an image through a lens, the securing method comprising:

providing a security cover comprising a sheet having an upper surface and a lower surface, and an adhesive applied on the lower surface of the sheet; and

releasably adhering the sheet to the mobile terminal for covering the lens to substantially prevent image capture by the imaging device.

[c35] 35. A securing method for a mobile terminal as recited in claim 34, further comprising the steps of providing a protective backing for removably covering the lower surface of the sheet, and removing the backing prior to the releasably adhering step.

[c36] 36. A securing method for a mobile terminal as recited in claim 34, wherein the releasably adhering step comprises adhesively attaching the sheet to the lens.

[c37] 37. A securing method for a mobile terminal as recited in claim 34, wherein the releasably adhering step comprises adhesively attaching the sheet to the housing.